

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE REPORT ON  
FUTURE COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA AND WORKLOAD PLANNING

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) offers the following recommendations for Council consideration with regard to Sacramento River Fall Chinook (SRFC) and Klamath River Fall Run Chinook (KRFC) salmon stocks, both of which have attained overfished status in 2018.

As described in the 2018 NMFS guidance letter regarding ocean salmon fishery management objectives (Agenda Item E.3.b, Supplemental NMFS Report 1, March 2018 Council Meeting), when criteria for overfished status are met the Pacific Coast Salmon Fishery Management Plan requires the Council direct the Salmon Technical Team (STT) to propose a rebuilding plan for Council consideration within one year. CDFW suggests an agenda item or webinar on this topic may be appropriate to identify plan expectations, necessary expertise, Council staffing plans, availability of fiscal resources, and process timeline.

While the Fishery Management Plan (FMP) is clear that the task for developing a rebuilding plan falls to the STT, CDFW requests that additional agency expertise be added to each of the SRFC and KRFC rebuilding plan work teams with the intent that these additional members participate for the duration of the process. An analogous model for this process is the Ad hoc Sacramento Winter Chinook Workgroup, where membership covered a range of scientific, management and policy needs.

CDFW's inland fishery management and scientific staff have substantially different expertise than our STT representative who is a member of CDFW's ocean salmon project. Members of CDFW's inland fisheries leadership have indicated a strong desire to participate as members of these work teams, and can be expected to contribute knowledge, data, and recommendations that are critical in developing both comprehensive and effective rebuilding plans for these stocks across their range.